1987 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

ADVANCE REPORT

UNITED STATES

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This report presents advance statistics from the 1987 Census of Agriculture. Advance reports are being published separately on a flow basis for each county with 10 farms or more, each State, and the United States. This series provides information on major data items together with comparable data from the 1982 census. The data items presented are the same for all States and counties, except selected crops harvested, which vary by State.

Inventories of livestock, poultry, and other specified items are as of December 31 of the census year. Production and sales data for crops and livestock are for the calendar year, except a few crops (such as citrus) for which the production year overlaps the calendar year.

Data for farms, acreages, and inventories for 1987 and 1982 are comparable. Dollar values have not been adjusted for changes in price levels between census years.

The Volume 1, Geographic Area Series, includes results for all data items collected in the census. The volume 1 appendixes provide a detailed description of how the census was taken, pertinent definitions and explanations, and measures of the reliability of the data.

Definition of farm—Since the 1974 census, a farm has been defined as any place from which $1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold or normally would have been sold, during the census year.

Reliability—The census of agriculture enumerates all identified farm and ranch operations in the United States. Sampling is used to collect data for selected items and to account for nonresponding farm operations. Thus, the results in this report are subject to sampling variability as well as reporting and coverage errors.

Acknowledgments—Special tribute is paid to the millions of farm and ranch operators and other agriculture-associated people who furnished the individual reports from which these statistical summaries were compiled. Also acknowledged are the contributions of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other public and private agencies that gave their support to the census program.

Symbols—The following symbols are used throughout the tables:

- – Represents zero.
- (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.
- (X) Not applicable.
- (Z) Less than half the unit shown.
- (NA) Not available.

If you have any questions concerning the statistics in this report, please call Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census (301) 763-1113.

U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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Farms, Land in Farms, and Selected Items: 1987 and 1982

Item		All farms		Farms with sales of $10,000 or more	
		1987	1982	1987	1982[1]
Farms	number	2 087 759	2 240 976	1 059 573	1 142 983
Land in farms	acres	964 470 625	986 796 579	829 021 612	811 280 541
Average size of farm	acres	462	440	782	710
Value of land and buildings:[2]					
Average per farm	dollars	289 387	345 869	455 522	557 636
Average per acre	dollars	627	784	583	785
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment:[2]					
Average per farm	dollars	41 227	41 919	67 755	69 63[illegible]
Farms by size:					
1 to 9 acres		183 257	187 665	44 642	40 552
10 to 49 acres		412 437	449 252	73 485	76 209
50 to 179 acres		644 849	711 652	244 068	297 233
180 to 499 acres		478 294	526 510	356 450	401 201
500 to 999 acres		200 058	203 925	181 018	184 843
1,000 acres or more		168 864	161 972	159 930	152 925
Total cropland	farms	1 848 574	2 010 609	990 686	1 083 508
	acres	443 318 233	445 362 028	393 245 402	396 148 576
Harvested cropland	farms	1 843 633	1 809 756	950 974	1 051 417
	acres	282 223 880	326 306 462	263 656 877	306 242 220
Irrigated land	farms	291 628	276 277	195 956	183 412
	acres	46 386 201	49 002 433	44 528 259	46 860 434
Market value of agricultural products sold	$1,000	136 048 516	131 900 223	132 644 656	128 023 777
Average per farm	dollars	65 165	58 858	125 187	112 010
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops	$1,000	58 931 085	62 256 087	57 583 620	60 642 654
Livestock, poultry, and their products	$1,000	77 117 431	69 644 136	75 061 036	67 381 124
Farms by value of sales:[1]					
Less than $2,500		490 296	536 327	-	-
$2,500 to $4,999		262 918	278 208	-	-
$5,000 to $9,999		274 972	281 802	-	-
$10,000 to $24,999		326 166	340 254	326 166	340 254
$25,000 to $49,999		219 636	248 828	219 636	248 828
$50,000 to $99,999		218 050	251 501	218 050	251 501
$100,000 or more		295 721	302 380	295 721	302 380
Operators by principal occupation:					
Farming		1 138 179	1 234 787	811 303	901 373
Other		949 580	1 006 189	248 270	241 590
Operators by days worked off farm:					
Any		1 115 560	1 187 374	422 984	430 919
200 days or more		737 206	774 844	218 941	212 942
Average age of operator	years	52.0	50.5	50.6	[illegible]
Total farm production expenses[2]	$1,000	108 138 053	(NA)	102 949 351	(NA)
Average per farm	dollars	51 797	(NA)	97 298	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses:[2]					
Livestock and poultry purchased	$1,000	19 344 645	17 174 334	18 917 000	16 598 865
Feed for livestock and poultry	$1,000	19 163 364	18 591 984	18 650 075	17 894 560
Interest expense[3]	$1,000	8 158 268	11 668 942	7 462 028	10 947 896
Petroleum products	$1,000	5 277 227	7 888 052	4 822 678	7 364 006
Livestock and poultry:					
Cattle and calves inventory	farms	1 176 346	1 354 992	604 650	675 509
	number	95 847 299	104 475 827	84 103 391	89 103 524
Beef cows	farms	841 778	957 698	378 254	416 077
	number	31 652 593	34 202 607	25 489 686	26 610 708
Milk cows	farms	202 068	277 762	168 068	212 168
	number	10 084 697	10 849 890	9 977 455	10 633 947
Cattle and calves sold	farms	1 150 523	1 278 609	618 274	678 726
	number	72 603 841	71 216 727	67 359 378	64 946 730
Hogs and pigs inventory	farms	243 398	329 833	172 903	219 066
	number	52 271 120	55 366 205	50 989 702	53 442 310
Hogs and pigs sold	farms	238 819	315 095	177 586	224 940
	number	96 569 359	94 783 598	94 669 837	92 055 157
Sheep and lambs inventory	farms	92 489	101 582	44 944	49 994
	number	11 059 397	12 438 011	9 646 324	10 389 830
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory	farms	144 438	215 812	53 006	77 430
	number	373 577 186	362 464 997	370 923 388	357 428 148
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	farms	27 645	30 100	23 382	24 114
	number	4 361 975 630	3 516 622 889	4 361 037 533	3 512 326 522
Selected crops harvested:					
Corn for grain or seed	farms	627 602	715 171	487 801	546 581
	acres	58 701 505	69 857 993	56 701 959	67 603 094
	bushels	6 725 001 837	7 508 721 493	6 570 214 669	7 341 316 392
Sorghum for grain or seed	farms	89 642	93 696	74 790	80 402
	acres	9 760 574	12 678 843	9 355 929	12 266 450
	bushels	633 174 972	725 959 104	613 452 427	710 350 908
Wheat for grain	farms	352 237	446 075	290 499	367 277
	acres	53 224 174	70 910 293	51 065 276	68 478 845
	bushels	1 887 103 964	2 373 246 659	1 831 284 430	2 314 396 644
Cotton	farms	43 046	38 266	38 371	33 185
	acres	9 826 081	9 781 404	9 731 859	9 607 799
	bales	13 280 143	11 375 524	13 214 862	11 259 688
Soybeans for beans	farms	441 899	511 229	380 626	410 441
	acres	55 291 205	64 832 842	53 318 294	62 275 679
	bushels	1 838 053 979	1 989 983 158	1 780 124 759	1 931 390 306
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc.	farms	994 551	1 050 992	549 943	593 535
	acres	57 967 530	56 743 836	47 466 354	46 420 100
	tons, dry	128 816 054	128 474 661	112 416 337	111 688 617
Vegetables harvested for sale	farms	60 819	69 109	39 884	40 051
	acres	3 467 563	3 330 637	3 385 892	3 202 559
Land in orchards	farms	120 434	123 663	54 168	51 437
	acres	4 560 163	4 750 667	4 054 131	4 148 243
Nursery and greenhouse crops	farms	37 298	35 507	24 726	21 147
	sales, $1,000	5 774 391	3 821 196	5 729 148	3 773 054

[1]Data for 1982 exclude abnormal farms.
[2]Data are based on a sample of farms.
[3]Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.